DC ENTERTAINMENT™

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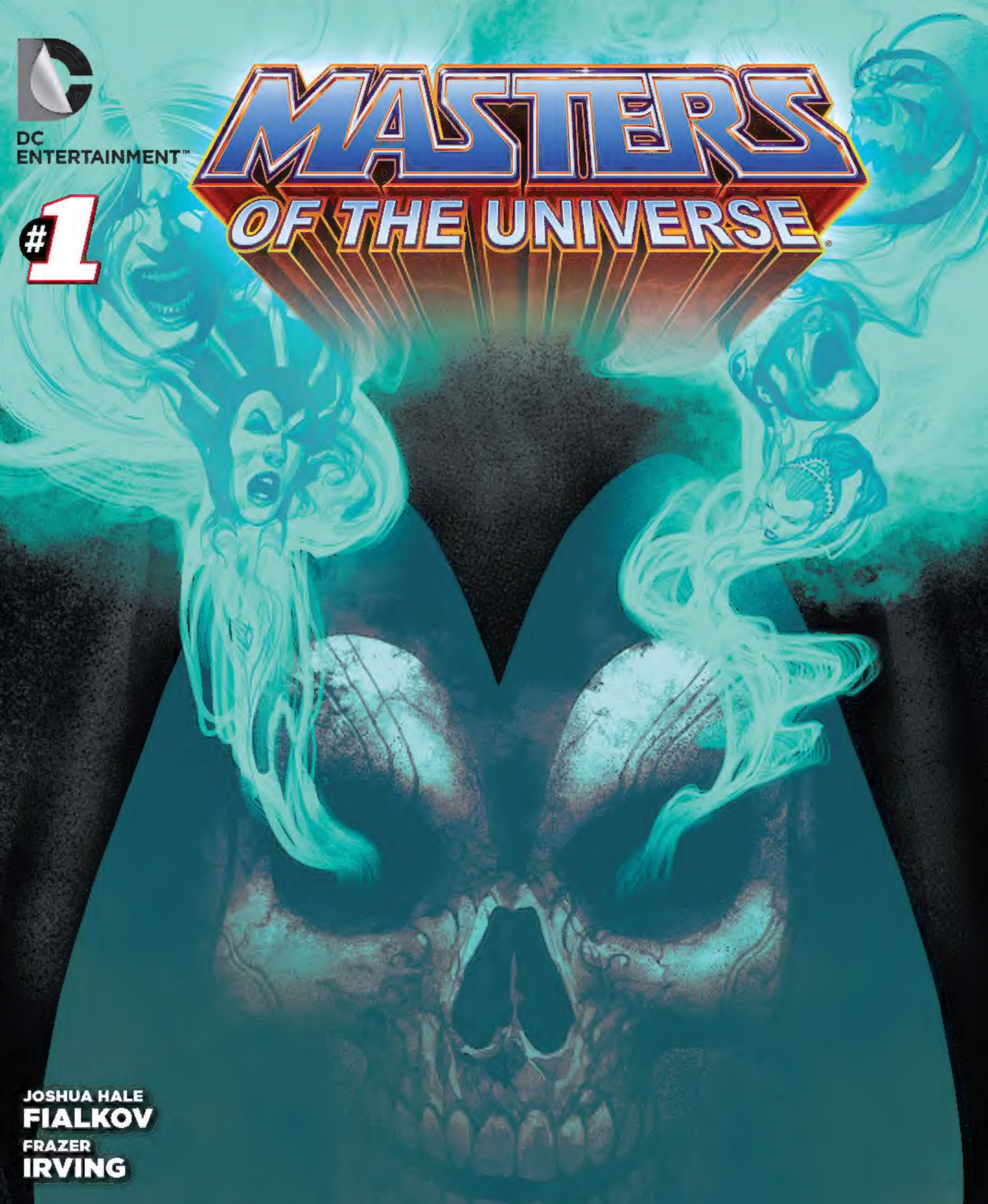
MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE®



JOSHUA HALE FIALKOV

FRAZER IRVING

THE ORIGIN OF SKELETOR

DEC 2012

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AND SO THIS IS THE DEATH OF KELDOR.

FIRST SON OF KING MIRO, BROTHER TO KING RANDOR.

THE SCIENTIST.

THE SCHOLAR.

THE GENERAL.

THE OBVIOUS HEIR TO THE THRONE OF ETERNIA.

THE HALF-BREED BASTARD CHILD OF A KING AND A CREATURE THE WORLD HAS DEEMED SUB-HUMAN.

I FANCY OTHER NAMES FOR MYSELF.

KELDOR THE MIGHTY.

KELDOR THE DESTROYER.

KELDOR THE KING.

INSTEAD IT WILL BE KELDOR THE FALLEN. KELDOR THE WEAK. KELDOR THE LIAR.

KELDOR THE BETRAYER.

I WILL MAKE THIS RIGHT. I WILL FIX MY LEGACY.

THIS PLACE... OUR VILLAGE... KING MIRO'S VILLAGE.

I HAVEN'T BEEN HERE SINCE--

OF COURSE...I'D FORGOTTEN--

MY BROTHER AND I PLAYED HERE. THE PRINCE AND HIS HALF-BREED FREAK.

THIS IS THE PLACE WHERE HORDAK'S MAN FIRST--

WHO--

YOUR DESTINY, PRINCE RANDOR--

NO! LET MY BROTHER FREE!

GAH!

KELDOR! NO!

WE DO NOT KILL!

FATHER WILL INTERROGATE THE PRISONER, AND LEARN FROM WHENCE HE CAME--

I... MUST FIND RANDOR...

I...

MY EYES--

BROTHER?

THIS MEANS THE WORLD TO ME, BROTHER. TO HAVE YOU AS MY CHIEF AID, YOUR WITS AND SKILLS WILL MAKE MY RULE LONG AND HEARTY.

FATHER'S LAST WISH--

WAS FOR ME TO RULE, AND YOU TO BE MY ADVISOR--

BUT I'M OLDER--

I...

I ASKED ON YOUR BEHALF, BROTHER, BUT YOUR GAR BLOOD--

MEANS I'M NOT GOOD ENOUGH FOR HIM.

FOR YOU.

FOR ANYONE.

I'LL NEVER FORGET THIS, BROTHER. AS LONG AS I LIVE--

YOU WOULD HAVE DONE THE SAME, RANDOR.

NO. I'M NOT READY TO FOLLOW THAT PATH.

NOT YET.

MY DESTINY.

MERTA-PORTA-CARLTAKEAX-HORDAK.

WHO DARES--

AH. KELDOR, SON OF MIRO, BROTHER OF RANDOR.

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR... ASCENSION.

THE OLD FOOL MADE RANDOR THE KING, JUST AS YOU SAID HE WOULD, LORD HORDAK.

BUT YOU'RE THE OLDEST, THE SMARTEST, THE STRONGEST--

I'M... IMPURE.

NO YOU'RE NOT.

YOU'RE BETTER THAN THEM. BETTER THAN ANY WHO'VE COME BEFORE.

BUT YOU ALREADY KNOW THAT. THAT'S WHY YOU MADE CONTACT.

I WILL HELP YOU CLAIM WHAT'S YOURS, BOY.

MUST... FIND... RANDOR.

TALK, SWINE! TELL ME WHO SENT YOU!

GAH!

HEH. YOU ALWAYS HAD IT, KID.

IT'S TIME.

WHAT?

IT'S TIME TO ACCEPT YOUR FATE.

I'M THE MASTER OF MY OWN FATE.

THERE IS ONLY ONE MASTER.

THE MISTAKES... I'VE MADE.

WHAT HAVE I DONE...?

WELCOME, KELDOR.

I HAVE WAITED LONG FOR YOU.

WHO--?

IS THIS--?

YES. YOU'VE CROSSED OVER.

I AM DEATH.

NO. I MUST LIVE-- MUST FIND RANDOR--

WHAT COULD A PITIFUL SPECK LIKE YOU EVER DO--?

HOW DARE YOU?

I AM KELDOR THE GREAT!

THE WORLD WILL TREMBLE BEFORE ME!

MUST. FIND. RANDOR.

KELDOR, I SWEAR TO YOU, I TOLD FATHER IT WAS YOU, NOT I--

TAKE THE ACCOLADES, I DON'T NEED THEM--

PLEASE, BROTHER--

FINALLY.

YOU'VE DONE WELL, MY SONS.

RANDOR, YOU'VE ONCE AGAIN SHOWN YOUR EXCELLENCE--

BUT FATHER, KELDOR--

IT'S KIND OF YOU TO SHARE THE COMPLIMENT--

NO, FATHER, YOU DON'T--

MY BOY, YOU'VE SHOWN TODAY WHY YOU DESERVE TO BE KING.

JUST AS KELDOR HAS SHOWN WHY HE SHOULD BE YOUR RIGHT HAND.

NO, FATHER, YOU DON'T--

KELDOR?

BROTHER? WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU--?

YOU KNOW.

WE MUST GET YOU TO A HEALER--

IT'S TOO LATE FOR THAT, BROTHER...

WHAT HAPPENED? WHY DID YOU BETRAY US?

PLEASE, KELDOR. HELP ME TO SET THIS RIGHT.

I DID WHAT HAD TO BE DONE.

THE RIGHTFUL RULER OF ETERNIA MUST BE...

BROUGHT FORTH.

HORDAK IS NOT THE RIGHTFUL RULER--

NOT... HORDAK.

ME.

BUT BROTHER, IT COULD NEVER BE! A GAR CAN NEVER--

NOT *A GAR! ME!*

WE SHARE BLOOD! WE SHARE *EVERYTHING!*

WHILE RANDOR RULES, KELDOR SITS TO HIS SIDE!

AND HE PRAYS...FOR HIS FATHER TO NOTICE HIM, FOR WOMEN TO DESIRE HIM, FOR THE PEOPLE TO ACCEPT THE MAN WHO SHOULD BE THEIR KING--

IT'S UNFAIR, I KNOW, BUT YOU WERE TO RULE WITH ME, BY MY SIDE, YES, UNDERNEATH ME, YES, BUT, NOT BECAUSE I'M BETTER, BUT BECAUSE I NEED YOUR HELP TO STAY STANDING UP.

KELDOR, BROTHER, WITHOUT YOU I AM LOST--

THEN, BROTHER, YOU ARE LOST.

YOU WILL NOT DIE, BROTHER.

LOOK UPON MY FACE AND SAY THAT.

SEE THE FACE OF KELDOR.

WE...WILL GET AN ENCHANTRESS--

IT'S TOO LATE, BROTHER.

ALL I CAN ASK IS THAT YOU DON'T LET ME DIE ALONE AND THAT YOU FORGIVE ME.

I FORGIVE YOUR BETRAYAL, I FORGIVE THE WAR YOU'VE CAUSED, I FORGIVE EVERYTHING.

IF ONLY I COULD'VE BEEN A BETTER BROTHER, A BETTER FRIEND TO YOU--

NO. FORGIVE ME FOR THIS.

WHAT--?

THERE IS NO OTHER WAY.

I MUST HAVE YOUR BLOOD. IT IS KEY.

FAREWELL, BROTHER.

WE SHAN'T MEET AGAIN.

NOOOOOOOO!

TELL HORDAK I'VE DONE IT--

KELDOR THE GREAT IS DEAD!

AND WITH HIS LAST BREATH HE BROUGHT US A WEAPON AGAINST THOSE WHO WANT US DEAD!

AND IN EXCHANGE FOR HIS GIFT, I GIFT HIM A NEW LIFE.

FAREWELL, KELDOR, SON OF MIRO, BROTHER OF RANDOR THE KING.

RISE, MY APPRENTICE...

RISE, MY...

SKELETOR!

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SPECIAL THANKS TO
BEN ABERNATHY